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## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 9, 2001**

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# **ELEVEN PEOPLE INDICTED FOR DEFRAUDING SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMS**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA** –United States Attorney's Office, District of Arizona; and James G. Huse, Jr., Inspector General/Social Security Administration, announced today that on March 19 and April 17-18, 2001, a Federal Grand Jury at Phoenix, AZ returned 11 separate indictments against individuals responsible for defrauding Social Security benefits programs of more than \$450,000.00. The indictments, resulting from investigation by agents of the Office of the Inspector General/Social Security Administration, charged Theft of Government Property and Social Security Fraud.

Named in the indictments were:

- C      **Kurt Allen Hoffman**, Scottsdale, AZ, was charged with the theft and conversion to his own use of \$46,767 in Social Security benefit payments payable to his deceased grandfather. Hoffman, whose name was on his grandfather's bank account, continued to receive and spend for his personal use Social Security retirement benefits deposited into his deceased grandfather's account.
- C      **Marilyn Elizabeth Richardson**, Glendale, AZ, was charged with the theft and conversion to her own use of \$84,057 in Social Security benefit payments to which she was not entitled. Richardson, whose name was on a joint account with her mother, continued to receive and spend for her own personal use Social Security retirement benefits deposited into her deceased mother's account.
- C      **John Brian Marshall**, Phoenix, AZ, was charged with the theft and conversion to his own use of \$115,446 in Social Security benefit payments to which he was

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not entitled. Marshall concealed work activity from Social Security while continuing to receive disability benefits for himself and two dependants.

- C **Randy Nelson Primm, aka Randolph P. Magnum**, Safford, AZ, was charged with theft of government property and making false statements to the Social Security Administration in connection with this receipt of \$30,440 in Social Security Supplemental Insurance benefits payments to which he was not entitled.
- C **Chris Steven Church**, Tempe, AZ, was charged with the theft and conversion to his own use of \$47,268 in Social Security benefit payments payable to his deceased mother. Church, whose name was on his mother's bank account, continued to received and spend for his personal use Social Security retirement benefits deposited into his deceased mother's account.
- C **James Arthur Price**, Gilbert, AZ, was charged with the theft and conversion to his own use of \$24,253 in Social Security benefit payments to which he was not entitled. Price, who was receiving Social Security Survivor's benefits after the death of his wife, concealed and failed to report his second marriage to SSA, an event that affected his continued ineligibility to receive Survivor's benefits.
- C **Cora Marie Sabori**, Chandler, AZ, was charged with the theft of government property and making false statements on documents submitted to the Social Security Administration for determining eligibility for benefits payments. The indictment charged that Sabori, who was Representative Payee for her minor son, continued to receive and convert to her own use \$18,329 in Social Security SSI benefit payments paid on behalf of her son after he had been removed from her custody to which she was not entitled.
- C **Darrellyne Manual, Sacaton**, AZ, was charged with the theft and conversion to her own use of \$20,997 in Social Security SSI benefit payments to which she was not entitled. Manuel, who was Representative Payee for her minor son, continued to receive and convert to her own use, SSI benefits payments paid on behalf of her son after he had been removed from her custody.
- C **Deborah Melissa Kline**, Phoenix, AZ, was charged with the theft and conversion to her own use of \$15,187 in Social Security SSI benefit payments to which she was not entitled. Kline, who was Representative Payee for her minor daughter, continued to receive and convert to her own use, SSI benefits payments paid on behalf of her daughter after she had been removed from her custody.
- C **Howard Richard Horowitz**, Phoenix, AZ, was charged with the theft and conversion to his own use of \$29,938 in Social Security benefit payments payable to his deceased mother. Horowitz, whose name was on his mother's bank

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account, continued to received and spend for his personal use Social Security retirement benefits deposited into his deceased mother's account.

C        **Michael M. Chiago**, North Komelik, AZ, was charged with the theft and conversion to his own use of \$26,828 in Social Security SSI benefit payments payable to his deceased mother.

Each theft of government property count carries a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The indictments are the result of a joint effort between the Department of Justice, United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona and the Social Security Administration, Office of the Inspector General, to identify and prosecute fraud against Social Security benefit programs. The investigations preceding the indictments were conducted by agents of the Office of the Inspector General, Social Security Administration. The prosecution is being handled by John K. Webb, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona.

RELEASE NUMBER:        2001-039

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